

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Office of Medicaid One Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108



JUDYANN BIGBY, M.E Secretary

Terence G. Doughert Medicaid Director

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY Lieutenant Governor

January 7, 2011

Nicole Nicholson Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Acquisition and Grants Management Mail Stop C2-21-15 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

RE: Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration Program (FON CMS-1L1-11-001)

Dear Ms. Nicholson:

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), the state agency responsible for administering the Medicaid program, through its Office of Medicaid requests funding for a Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration (FON CMS-1L1-11-001) in the amount of \$158,842,856.

Participation in the MFP Demonstration would provide Massachusetts with the opportunity to bring important innovation to its Community First long term care policy and rebalancing initiatives. In particular, participation would allow the commonwealth to increase access to home and community-based services (HCBS) by:

- strengthening functions and services to support those who wish to transition out of facilities.
- creating broader and comprehensive information about and access to transitional assistance.
- · promoting availability and utilization of state plan services for those transitioning, and
- developing two new HCBS waiver programs for people with disabilities not currently eligible for one of the existing waiver programs.

The Office of Medicaid will serve as the lead organization for the grant to be titled "Massachusetts Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration." Robin Callahan, Director of Member Policy and Program Development, will serve as Massachusetts' principal contact person.

Consistent with EOHHS' strong history of cross-agency collaboration, this effort will be led by an MFP Executive Committee that will include the EOHHS Assistant Secretary for Disability Policy and Programs, the Secretary of Elder Affairs, and senior representatives of the Office of Medicaid, the Departments of Developmental Services and Mental Health, and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. Collaborations with the Department of Housing and Community Development and our established stakeholder groups will be integral to the success of this Demonstration. Letters of endorsement from these key partners are included in the application.

The MFP demonstration is an opportunity to further transform the systems and the services supporting our disabled and elder community based long term care capacity. While very deliberately building on existing structures, the commonwealth believes that there will be significant transformation in these mechanisms throughout the course of the demonstration period. We anticipate active and ongoing formative evaluation of MFP implementation and the creation of active feedback loops within the commonwealth's own internal

structures as well as with our community partners so that there is the potential for real-time course correction, quality improvement, and system administrative, procurement and delivery related activities. The MFP demonstration will fully inform and be informed by other planned and ongoing EOHHS disability and elder long term care improvements as well as the intersecting opportunities afforded through ACA over the course of the grant period.

It is with great enthusiasm that Massachusetts submits this proposal. We look forward to collaborating with CMS on this initiative.

Sincerely

erence G. Dougher